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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## U.S. Troops and Suriname Students clean campus

*Story By: Sgt. Theanne Tangen and Pfc. Jacqueline Fitzgerald*

PARAMARIBO, Suriname -- United States service members and students from Lagere Technical School IV joined forces to clean up the campus Friday, July 11, in the capital city of Paramaribo as part of the Beyond the Horizon 2008 exercise.

Marine Corps Maj. Abraham Munoz, team leader from the 3D Civil Affairs Group based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., coordinated the project with the school headmaster to get students involved.

“The main goal of the project was to rid the campus of scattered trash as well as to get students interested in the beautification of their school,” said Munoz.

“Picking up the garbage was about ownership and taking pride in their school. They were eager and came prepared to work,” he added.

After only a few hours spent filling trash bags, teachers commented on the noticeable difference in the school. From the clean grass areas between buildings to the full dumpster, the volunteers and troops could easily see how much their effort had made an immediate difference.

“It was a good opportunity for us to work with members of the community, not just with the Suriname military,” said Munoz.

According to Munoz, troops wanted to show the students that something as simple as throwing trash into dumpsters can improve the appearance of their campus. He hopes this experience will influence the students to develop respect for their school and in their work.

The Beyond the Horizon 2008 exercise helps improve the quality of life for the people of Suriname, while at the same time improving partner nation’s capability and providing

opportunities for U.S. personnel to refine engineering, medical, mobilization and deployment skills.

**Photo Cutline:**



**080711-M-0689M-012:** PARAMARIBO, Suriname -- The U.S. Marine Corps based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., united with students from Lagere Technical School IV in Paramaribo to help build pride throughout the school by picking up garbage scattered on the campus grounds on Friday, July 11. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by Maj. Abraham Munoz)(RELEASED)

Link to photo: <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/released/080711-M-0689M-012.jpg>



**080711-A-5202T-052:** PARAMARIBO, Suriname -- Sgt. Chris Barondeau of Selby, S.D., Sgt. Jason Wayrynen of Burke, S.D, and Sgt. Jerome Bernard of Winner, S.D., members of the 155 Engineer Company, South Dakota Army National Guard, take a break on Friday, July 11, from their renovation work to help Fazaid Madjoe (left) and Bacha Rahul pick up garbage around Lagere Technical School IV in Paramaribo, Suriname. (Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Theanne Tangen) (RELEASED)

Link to photo: <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/released/080711-A-5202T-052.jpg>

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